10. Participation of women in specified activities.

11. Population below poverty line and below double the poverty line.

(c) and (d) The request for the data made by the Ministry of Minority Affairs was discussed in the 2nd meeting of Steering Committee of National Sample Survey, held during 12-13 March 2007 (The committee is empowered to take all technical decisions in respect of subject, survey work from planning to release of results). The Committee observed that the data requested by the Ministry of Minority Affairs could be met from existing data collected during various NSS rounds by analysing them according to religious groups. The Committee also suggested that the Ministry of Minority Affairs might begin with the unit level data of 61st round (July 2004-June 2005) and get the data tabulated as per its requirement.

Enhancement of spectrum availability

*75. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has proposed to cap the number of telecom operators, prompted by the unavailability of spectrum;

(b) whether Government consider that such a move by TRAI would curtail competition in the telecom industry to the detriment of consumers; and

(c) the steps being taken to enhance spectrum availability to accommodate new players in the industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Defence Services are to release further spectrum for unimpeded growth of public mobile telecom services by shifting of certain Defence wireless links to alternate media like Optical Fibre Cable (OFC).

Silt along Ganga at Allahabad

*76. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that River Ganga at Allahabad has been depositing heavy silt along the bank on Allahabad side;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the main channel has swung away towards the low lands on Phaphamau side;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the main channel, as a result of tangential flow towards the left bank, is liable to cause colossal loss of property, cut off rail and road communication from across Ganga and cause long term damage; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken to address the situation?